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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/371,687	08/10/1999	ERIN DRAKELEY O'BRIEN	08575/048001	9542

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EXAMINER

PWU, JEFFREY C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3628

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/371,687

Applicant(s)

O'BRIAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey Pwu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 April 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-13,15-25 and 27-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,3-13,15-25 and 27-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment, filed 2003-04-24.
2. The disposition of claims is: claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, and 27-42 are pending as filed.
Claims 1, 9, 13, 21, 25, 33, and 40-43 are independent.
3. The group art unit of the Examiner handling your case has changed. The new art unit is **3628**. Please use current art unit on all correspondence to help us route your case in a timely fashion.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claims 1, 9, 13, 21, 25, 33, and 40-43 is vague and indefinite because it is unclear which party, either the first party or the second party, is supplying the identification information.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, and 27-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shi et al* (applicant's IDS) (hereinafter Shi) (US 5,875, 296) in view of *Garrett et al* (hereinafter Garrett) US (6,397,337).

Shi discloses a computer-implemented method for providing access to an account of a second party substantially claimed including:

receiving identification information (DFS 16);

based on the identification information, receiving an account information that defines a right of a first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party (col.5, lines 13-col.6, line 37);

accessing the account information of the second party based on the account information session manager 27); and

enabling the first party to access the account of the second party based on the account information (see account manager 56).

However, Shi fails to show a step "wherein the account information does not contain the authenticator of the second party".

Garrett shows that it is well known in a computer network to design a system to use various, either singularity or in combinations with, identifier(s), password(s), and authenticator(s) to log-on users into a system and/or sub-systems for authentication and security purposes. Garrett also shows that is well known, by not using an authenticator, an identifier, a password, will provide faster access to various system resources (col.1, lines 38-65 and col.6, lines 24-col.7, line 44).

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It would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art in view of the teachings of Shi to providing access to account of a second party and to use Garrett's teaching to modify the logics of authentication process by not requiring an authenticator for accessing a second user's account .

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-13, 15-25, and 27-42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

9. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1065.

Jeffrey Pwu



28 June 2003